

Members

Sen. David Ford, Chairperson  
Sen. Brandt Hershman  
Sen. Jeff Drozda  
Sen. Rose Antich  
Sen. Allie Craycraft  
Sen. Lindel Hume  
Rep. Brian Hasler, Vice-Chairperson  
Rep. Terri Austin  
Rep. David Orentlicher  
Rep. Michael Murphy  
Rep. Eric Koch  
Rep. Brooks LaPlante



## INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY ISSUES

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Authority: Legislative Council Resolution 03-01

### MEETING MINUTES<sup>1</sup>

**Meeting Number:** 1

**Session 1:** August 22, 2003, 5:00 P.M.  
**Location:** Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute  
2425 Milo Sampson Rd.  
Bloomington, In

**Session 2:** August 23, 2003, 8:00 A.M.  
**Location:** Chemistry Bldg., Room 033  
Indiana University  
800 E. Kirkwood  
Bloomington, In

**Members Present<sup>2</sup>:** Sen. David Ford, Chairperson; Sen. Brandt Hershman; Sen. Jeff Drozda; Sen. Rose Antich-Carr; Sen. Allie Craycraft; Sen. Lindel Hume; Rep. Brian Hasler, Vice-Chairperson; Rep. Terri Austin; Rep. David Orentlicher; Rep. Eric Koch; Rep. Brooks LaPlante.

**Members Absent:** Rep. Michael Murphy.

**Session 1:**  
Chairperson Ford called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

After introducing the Committee's members and staff, Senator Ford thanked Indiana University (IU) for hosting the Committee and allowing it to meet at the Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute. The Chair also thanked the Cook Group, Inc. of Bloomington for allowing the Committee to tour its headquarters and the Sabine facility.

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<sup>1</sup> Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.ai.org/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

<sup>2</sup>Senators Hershman and Drozda were absent from Session 1.

Senator Ford then explained the charges of the Committee and asked the Committee for any comments on possible Committee discussion.

Vice-Chairperson Hasler stated that he would like the Committee to look into issues impacting research and development, technology parks, and human capital. He would also like the Committee to discuss the STAR program outlined in HB1789-03. Representative Hasler also noted that he thought the Committee needed to look at the security necessary to protect state-held public information from various forms of cyber-terrorism.

Senator Ford then noted that several members of the Committee were also members of the standing committees that address economic development and technology legislation in the House and Senate. He said that he felt that there was a new commitment in Indiana to foster economic development and put people back to work.

Next Senator Ford asked Don Weaver, Director of Indiana University's State Relations, to introduce the meeting's two speakers.

Mr. Weaver thanked the Committee for visiting IU and introduced Dr. John Cameron, Director of the Indiana University Cyclotron Facility (IUCF), and Dr. Allan Thornton, Director of the Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute (MPRI).

**Dr. John Cameron, Director, Indiana University Cyclotron Facility (IUCF)** (See Exhibit 1)

Dr. John Cameron, Director of the IUCF, discussed the various types of research supported by the IUCF. Dr. Cameron stated that the IUCF is a multidisciplinary laboratory with a staff of more than 120. He noted that the common element running through all the programs at the IUCF is the use of particle accelerators.

After a presentation on some of the capabilities of the accelerator and the facilities, Dr. Cameron outlined the four major research programs at the IUCF. These areas are nuclear physics, accelerator physics, materials modifications and testing, and the Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute (MPRI). Dr. Cameron then gave an overview of each of these areas and introduced Dr. Allan Thornton, Director of the MPRI.

**Dr. Allan Thornton, Director, Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute (MPRI)** (See Exhibit 2)

Dr. Allan Thornton, Director of the MPRI, discussed the role of the MPRI within the cyclotron facility. He explained that the MPRI is a regional facility that will soon provide precision treatment for cancer and benign diseases requiring superior control of radiation dose distribution.

Dr. Thornton stated that the new radiotherapy facility was one of only three in the nation, and the only facility located in the Midwest. Using the cyclotron, the MPRI will have the capacity to treat tumors more precisely without the exit dose of radiation damage caused from conventional radiation therapy.

In response to a question, Dr. Thornton stated that proton radiotherapy facilities are not more prevalent due to the high development, construction, and operational costs.

Senator Ford then thanked Drs. Cameron and Thornton for their presentations and invited the members and the public to attend a tour of the IUCF upon the Committee's recess.

Senator Ford then recessed the meeting until 8:00 A.M. Friday, August 23.

## **Session 2:**

Chairperson Ford reconvened the meeting at 8:15 A.M. Friday, August 23. After introducing the members, Senator Ford introduced the day's first speaker, Laura Larimer.

### **Laura Larimer, Chief Information Officer, State of Indiana**

Ms. Larimer began her presentation by describing her duties as the Chief Information Officer for the State of Indiana. Ms. Larimer serves on a number of commissions and leads the state in its use and implementation of technology to assist the administration of state business.

Ms. Larimer stated that relative to other states, Indiana is doing very well in the implementation of technology. She cited several awards the state has received for its use of technology in the areas of commerce and administration. Ms. Larimer then said that the state's Internet portal *AccessIndiana* has grown to over 200,000 pages of information. She said that as new developments move forward, she hopes that the portal will provide more technical and information assistance to local units of government, easier payment systems, the ability to disseminate audio/visual information, and other services.

After describing some of the workings and goals of her agency, Ms. Larimer also noted that many of the challenges of managing the state government's technological initiatives are caused by the lack of a centralized computing and email system. She noted that to begin addressing these problems, the state is centralizing its personnel records and is moving toward centralizing its procurement procedures.

### **Mark Long, President, Advanced Research and Technology Institute**

Mark Long began his presentation by describing the functions of the Advanced Research and Technology Institute (ARTI). He said that the Institute functions largely as the economic development arm of IU in that it assists in the commercialization of ideas and products developed at the University. He noted some of the primary functions of the Institute.

A main function of ARTI, he said, was the transfer of technology from IU to the marketplace. As an example, he mentioned a CD-ROM developed by the IU School of Social Work that is in the process of being commercialized. Another function of the Institute is to promote economic development. He noted that approximately 40 new jobs have been created through the Emerging Technologies Center, a life sciences business incubator sponsored by IU in downtown Indianapolis.

Mr. Long stated ARTI also manages IU's trademarks for merchandise sales, protecting the University's image and generating a stream of revenue. ARTI also works with other business interests including MPRI.

In response to a question, Mr. Long stated that research indicates that 83% of businesses that start in an incubator remain in business after five years. This percentage is in contrast to the only 15% of firms that remain in business after five years without the assistance of an incubator.

### **Ted Widlanski, Associate Dean for Research**

Dr. Ted Widlanski thanked the Committee for coming to Indiana University and encouraged the members to feel free to ask the faculty any questions that may arise.

Dr. Widlanski then gave a presentation on the research and teaching areas within the Indiana

University College of Arts and Sciences. He noted that the College is partnering for economic development in the state and is tackling new problems that impact Indiana residents.

Dr. Widlanski also noted life science employment in Indiana is growing at a faster pace than the rest of the nation. He pointed out that there are approximately 1,600 students in life sciences at Indiana University.

Dr. Widlanski then described some of the unique instructional programs offered by the College, including new interdisciplinary studies, human biology, and environmental and cognitive science programs. He also spoke on some of the innovative research programs and centers associated with the College. He stated that the College is working to develop technologies and provide intellectual impetus to research. Additionally, he said that the College is a partner in the Central Indiana Life Sciences Incentive and is increasing its further collaboration with industry and academia.

He concluded his remarks by stating that research space was becoming a limiting factor to the amount of research that is conducted at the College.

### **David Clemmer, Chair of Chemistry**

Dr. David Clemmer provided a brief overview of the IU Chemistry Department. He noted that the Department has 35 faculty members who study analytical, biological, inorganic, organic, physical, and theoretical chemistry.

After describing some of the work in the Department, he briefly discussed some of his research interests and highlighted the study of protein at the University.

Dr. Clemmer stated that he felt the atmosphere at Indiana University and in Indiana was continuing to fuel optimism and interest in science. He also stated that he felt that the various collaboration efforts, including the Indiana Proteonomics Consortium (Inproteo), were helping propel research in the state forward.

### **Beth Raff, Chair of Biology**

Dr. Beth Raff gave an overview on the IU Biology Department and discussed some of the ways in which its basic research in biology was helping to bring advances in biomedicine and helping the Indiana economy to develop.

She noted that the Department has been working to develop new programs that prepare students to meet the demands of the Indiana life science industry.

Dr. Raff also discussed how genes are similar across the animal phyla. She also detailed some of the similarities between fruit flies and humans and how the study of flies could bring insight into the research of ailments that affect humans.

In response to a question, Dr. Raff stated that the Biology Department had received a grant from NASA to study certain issues related to astrobiology.

### **Mark Shublak, TechPoint**

Mr. Mark Shublak, representing TechPoint, stated his organization's legislative initiatives for the next session. He said that he believed continued support of research and development spending was crucial for the state to develop. To encourage more R&D spending, he recommended making the R&D tax credit permanent. He also stated that he felt technology

investment should be considered on par with manufacturing for tax purposes. Mr. Shublak also mentioned that he felt that the state needs to develop its digital infrastructure and work to ensure that the Indiana workforce can meet the demands of technology companies.

Senator Ford then thanked the presenters, the members of the Committee, and Indiana University.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 A.M.